



11 July 1980

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Cuba Brief

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

VIA: Deputy Director of Central Intelligence

FROM: [REDACTED]  
Deputy to the DCI for Collection Tasking

SUBJECT: Senior Review Panel Examination of the Intelligence  
Community Performance Regarding the Soviet Military  
Presence in Cuba [REDACTED]

REFERENCE: TCS-3146/80/1/b - 30 May 1980

1. As a general comment, I endorse the thorough examination and conclusions reached by the Senior Review Panel. The report was well written, thought provoking, and pertinent well beyond the specific subject matter. (U)

2. Comments on specific sections and recommendations follow:

a. Section IV, "The Policy - Intelligence Community Interface," is to us the most interesting section in the report and portrays an informed discussion of the problem. The concluding recommendation appears to be weak however in that it suggests the creation of another vehicle which would in fact duplicate the formulation of the NITS. I would suggest that emphasis be placed on investigating ways to improve the NITS development process as a more viable solution. (U)

b. Recommendation 5 calls for the provision of a coherent, cross-disciplinary assessment of Soviet goals, capabilities, and intentions for extending the USSR's influence in the Third World in estimative publications. I subscribe to this recommendation and intend to extend this view to development of a cross-discipline collection study on the same topic if, as a result of the NFAC action, such a collection study appears useful and feasible.

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c. Recommendation 10 concerns the need for the D/DCI/CT, in coordination with the Director, NSA, to define procedures and mechanisms for resolving problems within the dissemination of SIGINT material or utilization of SIGINT material, and the establishment of an auditing procedure within the process to ensure Community responses to analytic complaint.

The SIGINT Committee has occasionally addressed these types of issues in the past. The general outcome was an acknowledgment by some users that summary reporting and gisting by NSA was a prudent approach for worldwide distribution, with the understanding that analysts in the Community could request more specific data from NSA. On occasion the Chairman, SIGINT Committee, has been directly involved in resolving issues between NSA and an individual user, e.g., NFAC with regard to specific ELINT raw data. I note that a dialogue has recently been established between the Director, NFAC, and the Deputy Director, NSA, regarding the overall problem of gisting. Further, the Collection Tasking Staff has a responsibility to ensure timely dissemination and exploitation of collected data. I have asked the Chairman, SIGINT Committee, to remind the Committee members that issues of this nature should be brought to his attention along with specific documentation for adjudication and to assure them that appropriate follow-up action will be taken to address their needs.

If Recommendation 10 of the Senior Review Panel Study is approved, I will of course work with DIRNSA toward a more generalized solution vice considering each issue on an individual case-by-case basis as and if it is brought to our attention. (C)

d. I support wholeheartedly the need to enhance mutual understanding and dialogue among the members of the Intelligence Community agencies and departments. We are ready to assist in the implementation of Recommendation 11. (U)

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